

- [0034] receiving, at the user equipment, a second signaling message including information whether a source base station, to which the user equipment is connected, supports assistance information, and
- [0035] determining, based on the information included in the first signaling message and the second signaling message, whether each of the source base station and the target base station supports assistance information.
- [0036] According to further refinements as defined under the above aspects,
  - [0037] if it is determined that both the source base station and the target base station support assistance information,
  - [0038] transmitting, by the user equipment, assistance information to the target base station only if the assistance information differs from the assistance information transmitted previously to the source base station;
  - [0039] if it is determined that the source base station supports assistance information and the target base station does not support assistance information,
  - [0040] inhibiting transmitting assistance information when the user equipment is connected to the target base station until the user equipment is disconnected from the target base station;
  - [0041] if it is determined that the source base station does not support assistance information and the target base station supports assistance information,
  - [0042] transmitting assistance information to the target base station when the user equipment is connected to the target base station;
  - [0043] each of the first signaling message and the second signaling message is the same kind of message;
  - [0044] each of the first signaling message and the second signaling message is a RRCConnectionReconfiguration message;
- [0045] According to another aspect of the invention there is provided a base station comprising
  - [0046] a composing unit configured to compose a first signaling message including information whether a target base station, to which handover of the user equipment is to be performed, supports assistance information, and
  - [0047] transmitting the first signaling message to the user equipment.
- [0048] According to further refinements as defined under the above aspects,
  - [0049] the composing unit is further configured to compose a second signaling message including information whether the base station supports assistance information, and
  - [0050] transmitting the second signaling message to the user equipment;
  - [0051] the first signaling message is sent at handover of the user equipment;
  - [0052] the second signaling message is sent at a time of connection reconfiguration after connection setup;
  - [0053] each of the first and second signaling message is the same kind of message;
  - [0054] each of the first and second signaling message is a RRCConnectionReconfiguration message.
- [0055] According to another aspect of the invention there is provided a base station to which handover of a user equipment is to be performed, comprising,
  - [0056] a composing unit configured to compose a signaling message including information whether the base station supports assistance information, and
  - [0057] transmitting the signaling message to another base station to which the user equipment is connected.
- [0058] According to another aspect of the invention there is provided a base station to which handover of a user equipment is to be performed, comprising,
  - [0059] a composing unit configured to compose a signaling message including information whether the base station supports assistance information, and
  - [0060] transmitting the signaling message to the user equipment.
- [0061] According to further refinements as defined under the above aspects,
  - [0062] the signaling message is sent at handover of the user equipment;
  - [0063] the signaling message is a RRCConnectionReconfiguration message.
- [0064] According to another aspect of the invention there is provided a user equipment, comprising
  - [0065] a receiver/transmitter configured to receive a first signaling message including information whether a target base station, to which handover of the user equipment is to be performed supports assistance information, further
  - [0066] configured to receive a second signaling message including information whether a source base station, to which the user equipment is connected, supports assistance information, and
  - [0067] a determining unit configured to determine, based on the information included in the first signaling message and the second signaling message, whether each of the source base station and the target base station supports assistance information.
- [0068] According to further refinements as defined under the above aspects,
  - [0069] if it is determined that both the source base station and the target base station support assistance information,
  - [0070] the receiver/transmitter being further configured to transmit assistance information to the target base station only if the assistance information differs from the assistance information transmitted previously to the source base station;
  - [0071] if it is determined that the source base station supports assistance information and the target base station does not support assistance information,
  - [0072] the receiver/transmitter being further configured to inhibit transmitting assistance information when the user equipment is connected to the target base station until the user equipment is disconnected from the target base station;
  - [0073] if it is determined that the source base station does not support assistance information and the target base station supports assistance information,
  - [0074] the receiver/transmitter being further configured to transmit assistance information to the target base station when the user equipment is connected to the target base station;
  - [0075] each of the first signaling message and the second signaling message is the same kind of message;